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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**PATENTS**

Applicant: Andreas, Bernard et al

Serial No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Attorney Docket No.: 6771.US.D1

Art Unit: Unassigned

**Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8**

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Date of Deposit: March 4, 2005

Kelly J. McCrystle

Date

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above are the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)
2. Copies of References listed in Form PTO-1449 (4 References)
3. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages, in duplicate)
4. Post Card

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Telephone: (650) 474-3326  
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,  
Andreas, et al.

Kelly J. McCrystle  
Registration No. 46,257  
Attorney for Applicants



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Kelly J. McCrystle Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

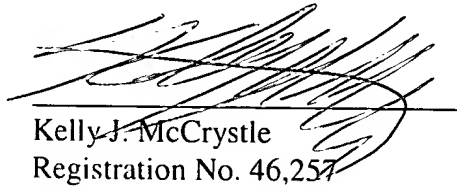
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached if necessary as specified under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge or credit any over payments to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. The Commissioner also is authorized to charge our Deposit Account any additional fees (or credit any over payments) that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in association with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*